Doc ID: Note:91626.1
Subject: ORA-00604 or ORA-00444: followed by ORA-00018 When Start Process/Connect to DB
Type: PROBLEM
Status: PUBLISHED

Content Type: TEXT/PLAIN
Creation Date: 13-DEC-1999
Last Revision Date: 28-JUN-2000
Language: USAENG

Problem Description:
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After default DB installation you may receive the following error:

```
  ORA-00444: "background process \"%s\" failed while starting"
      Cause: Usually due to a bad (or non-existent) background process image.
     Action: Get a good background process image.
```

followed by the error:

```
 ORA-00604: "error occurred at recursive SQL level %s"
     Cause:  An error occurred while processing a recursive SQL statement
             (a statement applying to internal dictionary tables).
    Action: If the situation described in the next error on the stack
             can be corrected, do so; otherwise contact Oracle Support.
```

when you wish to start some service as ctxsrv etc.

And/or maybe some traces are generated by background processes with ORA-00444 error followed by the error:

```
 ORA-00018: "maximum number of sessions exceeded"
     Cause:  All session state objects are in use
    Action: Increase maximum sessions - INIT.ORA parameter "sessions"
```

It may happens even if INIT.ORA parameter "sessions" is set.

Solution Description:
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1) Check and edit INIT.ORA parameter "processes" to highest value:

   processes = 200

   and restart the database.

2) Check and edit kernel parameter (platform specific) for max users processes and rebuild/reload system:

   - Sun Solaris: as root edit /etc/system file, add line:
     set maxuprc=500
     then reboot with switch "-r" or do:
     $touch /reconfigure
     $init 6

   - HP-UX: run sam as root and edit parameter "maxuprc" in "Kernel Configuration" section, then rebuild the new kernel and reboot

system.

Explanation:
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The INIT.ORA parameter "processes" is set to default value
(50) or kernel parameter for maximum processes allowed to user is set
to low value and you (process owner) cannot create new process for connect
to RDBMS.

References:
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[NOTE:30794.1] - Parameter: init.ora: PROCESSES
[NOTE:1010913.6] - Where to set kernel parameters

Search Words:
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ORA-604 ORA-18 ORA-444 startup ctxsrv backround processes init.ora kernel
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